

OIF
DEC 23 2002PTO/SB/30 (10-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.RCE/8
3700
12/26/02

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL	Application Number	09/223,972
Address to: Commissioner for Patents Box RCE Washington DC 20231	Filing Date	12/31/1998
	First Named Inventor	Shank, et al.
	Art Unit	2154
	Examiner Name	V. Vu
	Attorney Docket Number	NN-HU0125

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114**a. Previously submitted**

- i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on October 8, 2002
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

- i. Amendment/Reply
- ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)
- b. Other _____

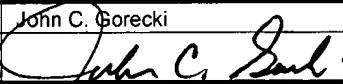
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 502246 (ref. NN-HU0125)

- i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. Extension of time fees if required (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. Other _____

- b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed 12/24/2002 AWONDAF1 00000174 09223972
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) 01 FC:1801 740.00 OP

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print/Type)	John C. Gorecki	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	38471
Signature		Date	December 16, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.:

Name (Print/Type)	John C. Gorecki
Signature	
Date	December 16, 2002

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.